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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/674,474	10/01/2003	Shoji Hirayama	117379	5521
25944	7590	08/15/2005	EXAMINER	
OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC			HOPKINS, ROBERT A	
P.O. BOX 19928			ART UNIT	
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22320			PAPER NUMBER	

1724

DATE MAILED: 08/15/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/674,474	Applicant(s) HIRAYAMA ET AL.	
	Examiner Robert A. Hopkins	Art Unit 1724	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 October 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1, 3, and 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Armbuster(4370155).

Armbuster teaches an air clean apparatus comprising an air intake(18) intended to be located at a lower position of a corner of a room and an air outlet(54) intended to be located at an upper position of the corner of the room, and at least a filter(42,44) and a blower(49) both inside the air clean apparatus. Armbuster further teaches an air purifier, wherein a cross section in side view has a triangular shape Armbuster further teaches wherein both sides are configured to have a width of at least 180mm and a height of 2000mm or less, respectively.

Claims 1 and 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Wetzel(5255167).

Wetzel teaches an air clean apparatus comprising an air intake(16) intended to be located at a lower position of a corner of a room and an air outlet(22) intended to be located at an upper position of the corner of the room, and at least a filter(18,23) and a blower(20) both inside the air clean apparatus. Wetzel further teaches wherein both

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sides are configured to have a width of at least 180mm and a height of 2000mm or less, respectively.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 2 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Armbuster(4370155) taken together with Yu(2003/0010211)

Armbuster teaches an air clean apparatus comprising an air intake and an air outlet provided in the vicinities of the lower portion and the upper portion of the air clean apparatus, respectively, and at least a filter(42,44) and a blower(49) inside the air clean apparatus, characterized in that when the air clean apparatus is vertically installed in a room, interior air is sucked by the blower through the air intake and then cleaned up inside the air clean apparatus, the cleaned air is then blown out through the air outlet to circulate the room, the air clean apparatus as a whole is formed in a vertically elongated shape, whose lower portion is located near a floor surface and the upper portion thereof has a height enough to extend up to the vicinity of a ceiling. Armbuster is silent as to a photocatalytic filter having an elongated shape extending in a direction along the longitudinal axis of the air clean apparatus main body. Yu teaches an air purifier(figure 1) having an elongated shape in the direction from a floor to a ceiling, and a blower(2),

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and a photocatalytic filter(4; paragraph 0022,0026) upstream of the blower having an elongated shape extending in a direction along the longitudinal axis of the air clean apparatus main body. It would have been obvious to someone of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to provide a photocatalytic filter having an elongated shape extending in a direction along the longitudinal axis of the air clean apparatus main body of Armbuster in order to generate a reaction to filter and dissolve organic gases harmful to the human body in the air flowing through(paragraph 0022 of Yu).

Armbuster further teaches wherein both sides are configured to have a width of at least 180mm and a height of 2000mm or less, respectively.

Claims 2 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wetzel(5255167) taken together with Yu(2003/0010211).

Wetzel teaches an air clean apparatus comprising an air intake(16) and an air outlet(22) provided in the vicinities of the lower portion and the upper portion of the air clean apparatus, respectively, and at least a filter(18,23) and a blower(20) inside the air clean apparatus, characterized in that when the air clean apparatus is vertically installed in a room, interior air is sucked by the blower through the air intake and then cleaned up inside the air clean apparatus, the cleaned air is then blown out through the air outlet to circulate the room, the air clean apparatus as a whole is formed in a vertically elongated shape, whose lower portion is located near a floor surface and the upper portion thereof has a height enough to extend up to the vicinity of a ceiling. Wetzel is silent as to a photocatalytic filter having an elongated shape extending in a direction along the longitudinal axis of the air clean apparatus main body. Yu teaches an air purifier(figure

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1) having an elongated shape in the direction from a floor to a ceiling, and a blower(2), and a photocatalytic filter(4; paragraph 0022,0026) upstream of the blower having an elongated shape extending in a direction along the longitudinal axis of the air clean apparatus main body. It would have been obvious to someone of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to provide a photocatalytic filter having an elongated shape extending in a direction along the longitudinal axis of the air clean apparatus main body of Armbuster in order to generate a reaction to filter and dissolve organic gases harmful to the human body in the air flowing through(paragraph 0022 of Yu).

Wetzel further teaches wherein both sides are configured to have a width of at least 180mm and a height of 2000mm or less, respectively.

Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wetzel(5255167) taken together with Armbuster(4370155).

Wetzel teaches all of the limitations of claim 3 but is silent as to wherein a cross section in side view has a fan-shape, pentangular shape or triangular shape. Armbuster teaches an air purifier, wherein a cross section in side view has a triangular shape. It would have been obvious to someone of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Wetzel to provide for a triangular shape cross section so that the air purifier can be easily placed in a corner of a room.

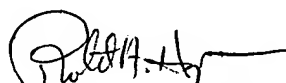
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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Robert A. Hopkins whose telephone number is 571-272-1159. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 7am-4pm, alternate Fridays off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Duane Smith can be reached on 571-272-1166. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Rah
August 11, 2005


ROBERT A. HOPKINS
PRIMARY EXAMINER
A.U. 1724